

**United States Attorney's Office District of Columbia** 

Ronald C. Machen Jr. United States Attorney

## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Tuesday, April 20, 2010

USAO Public Affairs (202) 514-6933 www.usdoj.gov/usao/dc

## **District Woman Sentenced in Forged Check Case**

Washington, D.C. - A 27-year-old Northwest District of Columbia woman, Tamika Cooper, was sentenced today for possession of stolen mail, announced U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and U.S. Postal Inspector in Charge Daniel Cortez. U.S. District Judge James Robertson sentenced Cooper to five years of probation and restitution of \$42,212.35.

Cooper admitted during a prior plea hearing that in October and November 2007, checks were stolen from the mail at the law firm of Venable LLP at an office located in the District of Columbia. The name of Tamika Cooper or of another person was typed on the checks as the payee. Cooper endorsed checks knowing that she was not entitled to be paid the checks and that the checks were stolen.

In announcing the sentence, U.S. Attorney Machen and U.S. Postal Inspector in Charge Cortez commended the work of U.S. Postal Inspector Dean Davis, who investigated the case. They also commended Financial Analyst Crystal Boodoo and Paralegal Specialist Carolyn Cody of the Fraud and Public Corruption Section as well as Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jonathan Haray and Thomas E. Zeno.

###

10-73